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*The EDITH and LORNE PIERCE
COLLECTION of CANADIANA*



Queen's University at Kingston

THE GRANGE

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FARMERS NATIONAL ORGANIZATION.

ORGANIZED DECEMBER 4, 1867.

NON-PARTISAN. NON-SECTARIAN.

EDUCATION AND CO-OPERATION

THE LEADING FEATURES OF THE ORDER.

“KNOWLEDGE IS POWER.”

GEMS OF THOUGHT FROM LEADERS IN THE ORDER.

IN THREE PARTS.--No. 1.

PREPARED BY

ALPHA MESSEY,

Lecturer of the National Grange, Patrons of Husbandry,
ROCHESTER, VERMONT.

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OBJECTS OF THE GRANGE.

EDUCATION.--No. 1.

No civic Order which was ever instituted has presented its principles more clearly to the public than the Order of Patrons of Husbandry. In its Declaration of Purposes is plainly stated the objects for which the Order was established. To achieve these objects and make the advancement which is sought, requires the intelligent, united efforts of all the members. It is an acknowledged fact that all true progress in material prosperity, in manhood and womanhood, and in good citizenship, must be dependent upon the increased intelligence and the broadened thought of the great body of the people, and hence it is that education was made the basic principle or foundation-stone of the Order. But it should be understood that this education has only a minor reference to theoretical teaching, or that which is gained from books or professional teachers. The education sought and obtained is, in some respects, of a different application. While the former is intended to give thought and intellectuality, the latter comes in to develop this thought and intelligence along the practical lines of life in the home, on the farm and at the ballot-box. The best type of citizenship is found where a high degree of intelligence is combined with patriotism and a manly character, and the best form of government is that which is composed of the direct representatives of such a citizenship. The crying demand of the country to-day is that the farmers and business men of the nation shall take a deeper interest in the governmental affairs of state and nation. The farmers of this country are the basis of its prosperity, and should be the most intelligent, independent thinking body of its people. This is what the Grange seeks to make of its members. That the public may have a clear understanding of the position of the Grange in this respect, and a better knowledge of the grand and noble work which it is doing in the interests of the farming population, the following "gems of thought" are given from prominent members of the Order in all parts of the country:

THE CAUSE OF EDUCATION TO BE ADVANCED.

“ We shall advance the cause of education among ourselves, and our children by all just means within our power. We especially advocate for our agricultural and industrial colleges, that practical agriculture, domestic science, and all the arts which adorn the home, be taught in their courses of study.”

DECLARATION OF PURPOSES.

THE GRANGE OPENS THE DOOR OF KNOWLEDGE.

“ Our Order opens wide the door of knowledge. It says, ‘ Enter ye in at the straight gate,’ and learn those things which so closely concern your material social, mental and moral welfare. There we are taught to analyze the soil, to note the condition of the atmosphere, to reject unprofitable seed, to select improved grades of stock, to improve our farms, to beautify our homes, to be more tolerant toward others, to exercise greater charity, to read and support Grange newspapers, to examine more carefully legislative proceedings, and to demand and obtain redress from prejudicial enactments, both State and National.”

SAM. E. ADAMS,

Past Master National Grange.

THE GRANGE TEACHES HOW TO PROTECT THE INTERESTS OF AGRICULTURE FROM THE AGGRESSIONS OF OTHER CLASSES.

“ The members of the Grange are learning that its object was not to make merchants of them, but to teach the farmers how to protect the interests of agriculture from the aggressions of other interests, and for the advancement of the farming population socially, intellectually, financially and politically.

The result is, our members are thinking, reading and speaking, and moulding public sentiment in the interests of agriculture, which I am convinced will eventually relieve it of many of the burdens which now retard the improvement of the condition of its votaries.”

PUT DARDEN,

Late Master National Grange.

THE GRANGE IS DOING A WORK THAT THE CHURCH CANNOT DO.

“ The amount of good that is done, the intellectual instruction and stimulus imparted, the social life and friendly comradeship engendered by those meetings are beyond all computation. I believe in the grand functions of the church with all my heart, but I see

more clearly every year that the Grange is doing a much-needed work that the church cannot do. It is demolishing the walls of partition among the sects. It is connecting a bond of union between all forms of belief. It furnishes a neutral field in which those of the most diverse theological and political beliefs and affinities may learn together, and unite in all good words and works for the elevation of the race, the amelioration of business and social conditions, and the promotion of good citizenship."

Rev. GEO. W. PATTEN,

Chaplain N. H. State Grange.

THE GRANGE STANDS FOR WHAT IS BEST FOR THE FARMERS OF THE NATION.

"What the Grange insists upon is equality before the law.

The Grange is purely a farmers' organization, and is for that which is best for the farmers of the nation; but in seeking to advance the prosperity of those engaged in agriculture, it wages no war against any other interest or pursuit; and if you will examine its history you will see it has advanced along this line during all the years of its existence, which should commend it to all well-thinking farmers"

LEONARD RHONE,

Master Pennsylvania State Grange.

MEMBERS OF THE GRANGE ARE BECOMING PROFICIENT IN MUSIC.

"Music appeals not only to our better nature, but lifts our minds to better things, and like an electric cord binds soul to soul, and is in the truest sense an educator. The members of the Grange are recognizing this fact, and are becoming proficients in this as in any legitimate Grange work. The farmer comes in daily contact with the unwritten music of nature. Let every Grange cultivate music, that its influence may increase and fit our members to join in the 'Everlasting chorus around the throne.'"

A. M. BELCHER,

Asst. Steward National Grange.

THE FARMER MUST STUDY THE SCIENCE OF GOVERNMENT.

"The educational work of the Grange upon the rights, duties and opportunities of the farmer beyond his farm is more and more showing in good results. However valuable it may be for a farmer to have as full and complete training as possible in the art and science of agriculture, it will avail him but little if he is not also a close student of the science of government, and have a full understanding

of all economic questions on which the ultimate results of his toil, and his peace and quietness as a prosperous citizen so much depend."

*MORTIMER WHITEHEAD,
Past Lecturer National Grange.*

IGNORANCE OF THE PRINCIPLES OF THE ORDER PREVENTS MANY FROM JOINING THE GRANGE.

"In seeking to better the condition of the agricultural class, as we go out among the farmers, we are constantly met with the inquiry: 'What are the objects of the Grange?' Our principles are enumerated in our Declaration of Purposes, but to understand them properly we must be educated in them until we are imbued with them, and live in them, constantly guided by their influence. Ignorance of the great principles of our Order prevents many good and honest people from seeking an entrance within our gates. In this age of intellectual advancement farmers must keep abreast with the educational progress that ever surrounds them."

*R. P. BOISE,
Past Master Oregon State Grange.*

EDUCATION UNLOCKS THE GREAT STOREHOUSE OF LIFE'S BLESSINGS.

"As an Order, we are pledged to advance the cause of education by all just means within our power. Every observing mind acknowledges that education is power. It is the key that unlocks the great store-house of the choicest gifts and blessings of life, the cornerstone upon which is builded all that is good and great and noble in individuals, in organizations, in governments. Therefore, in our Grange work let us strive more earnestly for this attainment than for any other, realizing that the success, influence and perpetuity of our Order must and will depend upon the intelligence of its members."

*W. C. GIFFORD,
Past Master N. Y. State Grange.*

MORE EDUCATION NEEDED IN THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF OUR GOVERNMENT.

"Too little attention is given to instruction in the fundamental principles of our government. The rights, duties and responsibilities of citizenship are scarcely ever touched upon in our school rooms. Our system of education, to be productive of good, should conform to our climate, government, political, religious and moral ideas and essential modes of life. We need more Grange teaching in our Order, to train our children and those around us up to our doctrines

as an organization. It is also incumbent upon us that we should educate and elevate ourselves as Patrons to look after this grand feature of our Order."

X. X. CHARTTERS,

Late Master Virginia State Grange.

VALUABLE LESSONS FOR THE HOME AND THE FARM TAUGHT IN THE GRANGE.

"The Subordinate Grange is a school in which, if properly conducted, knowledge of inestimable value may be obtained. Here is where lessons can be taught of a practicable value of the farm, of the home, and instruction in business methods generally, of which the farmer is lamentably deficient."

W. R. WILLIAMS,

Master North Carolina State Grange.

EDUCATION MEANS MORE THAN BOOK KNOWLEDGE.

"Education, in the best acceptation of the term, means something more than book knowledge. It includes this, and the ability to apply the same in our business affairs—the complete mastery of the laws that limit and define our individual rights and the rights of others. It must also include such a knowledge of, and obedience to that higher law, that we shall respect the rights of others, while firmly maintaining our own. A citizen thus educated is capable of filling the high duties of citizenship in social, political and business life.

It is this educational feature of our Order we respectfully urge upon our members to ever guard and cherish with jealous care."

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION,

Vermont State Grange.

SPHERE OF USEFULNESS IS MEASURED BY PRACTICAL COMMON SENSE.

"Improve the opportunities of the Grange in all its bearings as an educational and social measure, attend promptly and regularly its meetings, remembering that 'knowledge is power,' and that your sphere of usefulness to the people and the State is measured by your practical common sense and ability to grasp and sustain with reason your side of the questions of the day, whether State or National, social or political."

W. H. STINSON,

Past Master N. H. State Grange.

EDUCATION A CORNER-STONE OF THE GRANGE.

"Truly education is one of the principal corner-stones of the Grange. It is taught in our ritualistic work, and made prominent in all the walks of life. It is not the only duty of Patrons to look

after the education of the children, but it is also their duty to educate and elevate themselves, so as to be better citizens, and better qualified for the business and pleasures of the farm and home.

CHAS. McDANIEL,

Past Master N. H. State Grange.

DISCUSSIONS IN THE GRANGE DEVELOP THE STRENGTH OR WEAKNESS OF THE SUBJECT DISCUSSED.

“ We older ones, who are in the thick of the struggle, can still make our Granges, schools and colleges for our new requirements. Bulletins from the experiment stations of each State are often issued. Some of them detail experiments in subjects that vitally interest us. How many of us have received these bulletins? Or, nearer still, how many have put their suggestions in practice? A Grange meeting that will discuss these matters will reach a large number of farmers. Nothing so finds both the strength and the weakness of the lesson of an experiment as its discussion by a number of practical men. We may throw aside what we read, from whatever source it may come, and forget it, but we will not forget a discussion upon the subject.”

JOHN C. HIGGINS,

Past Master Del. State Grange.

NO BETTER EDUCATOR THAN THE SUBORDINATE GRANGES.

“ Don’t let any one influence you to believe that this part of the work of our Order is accomplished. We may now have better roads, and better schools, and better halls, and better Granges, with larger libraries and more readers, than heretofore, but still the work of education is not done. Let it go on till there are none in our fair land who want to do their neighbor wrong, till ignorance has been throttled, till lawlessness is unknown, till elections are honestly conducted, till strikes are things of the past, till prejudice is dethroned, till virtue is always rewarded, till right is supreme and wrong annihilated.

Till these things, and many more, are brought about, there will be education required by the Grange. And there will be no better educator in all this broad land than Subordinate Granges of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry. May the time soon come when the world will recognize the fact that our Order is an educational association that aids all sections, and elevates all who come into contact with it.”

E. W. DAVIS,

Overseer National Grange.

THE GRANGE WILL EDUCATE ITS MEMBERSHIP TO INDEPENDENT THOUGHT
AND ACTION.

"The leading features of the Grange to-day are educational and social, and to those who watch its workings, it is wonderful to note the intellectual progress of a large part of its members, and, by bringing us together, it has almost wiped out the isolation which was once so prominent in farm life.

The Grange can never become a partisan organization without going directly against its Declaration of Purposes. Neither can it join any political organization. While it guards the convictions of individual members, it should educate its membership to independent thought and action."

G. A. HOPSON,

Lecturer Conn. State Grange.

GRANGE MEETINGS ARE BEACON LIGHTS ALL OVER THE STATE.

"Not only has the Grange sought to encourage education by taking an especial interest in our common schools, but it has endeavored to make the grange meetings in the pleasant halls, scattered like beacon lights all over the State, so many schools in which the members of all ages may obtain instruction as well in those principles which are intimately connected with the farmer's calling, as in general literature and science, and in all the pleasant amenities that adorn social life."

EDWARD WIGGIN,

Master Main State Grange.

The above truthful utterances from the faithful leaders of the Grange, ought to convince any one that the Order of Patrons of Husbandry merits the approval and support of every intelligent thinking farmer, who desires prosperity, good government and the blessings of freedom and equality for all the people in the land. For circulars or further information in regard to the Grange, its objects and its work, write to the Master of your State Granges, or to,

Yours fraternally,

ALPHA MESSEY,

Lecturer National Grange,

Rochester, Vt

Read the other numbers of this series.

